

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE GENERAL PLAN UPDATE COMMITTEE OF THE TOWN OF CLARKDALE HELD ON MONDAY, MARCH 21, 2011, IN THE MEN'S LOUNGE OF THE CLARK MEMORIAL CLUBHOUSE, 19 N. NINTH STREET, CLARKDALE, AZ.

A **REGULAR Meeting** of the General Plan Update Committee of the Town of Clarkdale was held on Monday, March 21, 2011 at 4:00 p.m., in the **MEN'S LOUNGE OF THE CLARK MEMORIAL CLUBHOUSE, 19 North Ninth Street**, Clarkdale, AZ.

Planning Commission:

Chairperson	Janet Regner	Present
Vice Chairperson	Lew Dodendorf	Excused
Committee Members	Ida deBlanc	Present
	Jack VanWye	Excused
	Karen Daniels	Present
	Lisa O'Neill	Present
	Ruth Wicks	Present

Staff:

Community Development Director	Sherry Bailey
Administrative Assistant	Vicki McReynolds

Others In Attendance: None.

AGENDA ITEM: CALL TO ORDER: The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM: ROLL CALL: The Administrative Assistant called roll.

AGENDA ITEM: MINUTES: Consideration of the **Special Meeting Minutes of February 28, 2011**. Committee Member O'Neill motioned to approve the Special Meeting Minutes of February 28, 2011. Committee Member Wicks seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM: REPORTS:

Chairperson & Members Special Events Report: None.

Staff Report: The Community Development Director stated:

- The timeline for the General Plan is on track.
- The General Plan Committee will make their formal recommendation for approval in June, allowing for Council action in July and a November election.
- The Finance Director will post the first part of May, the General Plan being on the November elections inviting arguments for/against it. A pamphlet will then come out and go to the County in August.

AGENDA ITEM: PUBLIC COMMENT: The public is invited to provide comments at this time on items that are not on this agenda. Action taken as a result of public comment will be limited to directing staff to study the matter, or scheduling the matter for further consideration and decision on a later agenda, as required by the Arizona Open Meeting Law. Each speaker is asked to limit his or her comments to **FIVE minutes**.

There was no public comment.

NEW BUSINESS

AGENDA ITEM: REVIEW & DISCUSSION: Education Chapter.

The Community Development Director provided the following at the meeting:

CHAPTER 4 EDUCATION

Education Is Important To Clarkdale

The Education chapter is not required by state law; rather it is an optional chapter within the General Plan. Since Education is not mandatory there are no strict guidelines as to what should be included with this chapter. The role of education, particularly in Clarkdale, is central to the core of what Clarkdale is and where Sustainable Clarkdale is going. Working to support existing agencies, providing input when desired, working with businesses to meet their workforce training needs, communicating topic specific information to the public and providing a venue for education programs are all roles for the Town.

Clarkdale and the Verde Valley offer a wealth of educational opportunities to residents of the Town and the valley, including early childhood learning centers, the Clarkdale – Jerome Public School, private and charter K-12 schools where Clarkdale residents also send their children and Yavapai Community College. These institutions operate through a variety of funding and management structures, with limited involvement by the Town of Clarkdale. The Town has many opportunities, however, to ensure quality lifelong education for Clarkdale residents. Access to appropriate facilities, a diverse mix of students, strong neighborhood connections and opportunities for learning outside of the classroom all contribute to a well-performing school. Through its role in providing planning and infrastructure, the Town will continue to create an environment that supports lifelong learning.

OUR EDUCATION COMMUNITY

Elementary Education

Clarkdale Jerome School District

A challenge for the future will be to help the Clarkdale-Jerome School district anticipate potential facility needs, to plan those facilities so that they are seamlessly integrated into the community. The future of schools in Clarkdale and the continued excellent rating is critical to the continued strength of the community as we move forward with economic development efforts in the community. Recognizing the school's existing sustainability program and developing partnering opportunities contributes to Sustainable Clarkdale.

Cottonwood Oak Creek School District

Presently Clarkdale is in two school districts, with the Cottonwood – Oak Creek School district drawing from the southern portion of Clarkdale. This has resulted in a lot of cross jurisdictional applications for children to attend school with many of their friends who attend the Clarkdale Jerome School. Discussions have occurred sporadically among residents to redraw the district lines. Such an action would involve all elements of the community, including Town government, but could result in a more unified long term approach to education in Clarkdale.

Private or Charter Schools

Within seven miles of Clarkdale there are eight charter or private schools that provide a plethora of different teaching programs and creative learning experiences. The Accelerated Learning Charter School, American Heritage School, Montessori Children’s House, Mountain View Preparatory, The Academy at Mingus and Verde Valley Montessori School, New Visions Academy all serve students from Clarkdale and provide excellent educational experiences. The Town can support the growth and development of these types of educational centers by providing community leadership that encourages educational diversity and welcomes creative learning. Clarkdale is a community that is supportive of Education and has it as a town priority.

Higher Education

The Verde Valley campus of Yavapai Community College is located in Clarkdale. This is a tremendous advantage to the community. It is what makes Clarkdale a college town and helps drive education as a community priority. Sustainable Clarkdale is partnering with the college to engage them in leadership role. Sustainable agriculture, the Viticulture Program, returning veterans training, workforce training, small business development, the Business Assistance Center partnership, along with traditional educational programming provided by the college makes them an important partner in how Clarkdale continues to develop.

The college’s future development plan is part of the town’s Future Land Use plan and included in the Clarkdale General Plan. The town was part of the group that developed the Yavapai plan and has been working with the college to provide development opportunities.

The college’s role in workforce development and training is an important element in the town’s economic development efforts. Working with the established business/industrial community to identify their training needs and development programs that meet those needs is central to a healthy business climate.

Sustainable Clarkdale has also been engaging Arizona State University, Northern Arizona University and the University of Arizona in partnership discussions for interns in multiple sustainability efforts. Research and development opportunities within the sustainability project and the ability to work together have been at the heart of the Clarkdale Program. It is also what interests major education institutions. The town is working with these educational institutions to develop a curriculum designed to develop

a sustainable workforce able to take advantage of the opportunities within cities and towns.

Lifelong Education

Continued education opportunities through formal, non-formal and informal opportunities that create the opportunity for continuous lifelong development that contributes to a person's quality of life. Today with less defined changes in life roles, there is a need for new strategies to motivate lifelong learning. Clarkdale recognizes that value of supporting programs that provide lifelong education opportunities. Whether partnering with the college, individuals, agencies or groups to provide an atmosphere that helps provide learning opportunities or developing programs through Community Services, Clarkdale has made a commitment to support lifelong education.

LIBRARIES OF THE FUTURE

Thomas Fey has said that "libraries are really a life form. They exist as a human system and as such tend to take on many of the same attributes of the communities they serve." That statement is certainly true of Clarkdale. The Clark Memorial Library has been the community center. It was also the cultural and historical center for Clarkdale. Over the past couple of years the role of the library has been changing to accommodate the evolution of not only Clarkdale, but the world. There is a very strong survival instinct around the library. Libraries in general have to adapt to a changing world and the Clark Memorial Library is making that change.

The library has a mutually dependent relationship with Clarkdale and as the town moves closer to Sustainable Clarkdale, the library intends on being in the forefront of that evolution. The fastest broadband access can be found at the library. More computers, more opportunities for program development and community gatherings are available at the library. Greater lifelong education options will be centered at the library whether from outside partnerships or town generated programming.

EDUCATION CHAPTER POLICIES

The education goal for Clarkdale is singular in purpose:

The Town of Clarkdale intends on maintaining its commitment to supporting excellent educational opportunities for all the residents of Clarkdale.

Facilitate open communication between the Town, the School Districts and the development community to coordinate development and growth in a way that mitigates impacts to the school systems and provides for the continuation of the existing quality education for school students.

Encourage the school districts, the Town and developers to engage in early discussions regarding the nature and scope of proposed projects and possible fiscal impacts and mitigation measures.

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Cooperate with all of the School Districts and Yavapai College Clarkdale Campus in the joint planning, development and use of school facilities which may result in partnering opportunities for recreation facilities, libraries and community services/programs.

Provide all pertinent information on General Plan amendments, rezoning and other development proposals to the School Districts and Yavapai College.

Work to develop a cooperative Town-District planning collaborative that supports efforts of mutual benefit between the School Districts and the Town and Yavapai College and the Town.

Provide leadership and participation in supporting efforts of the education community to increase the percent of youth that graduate, attend higher educational programs - including Yavapai College - and who are employed in high quality jobs in the Verde Valley.

Collaborate with the School Districts, the community, post-secondary institutions, businesses and industry to ensure availability of necessary resources to meet learner needs.

Continue to work with the School Districts through programs such as the Safe Routes to Schools program to improve pedestrian and bicycle safety and encourage walking and biking to and from school.

Encourage the use of available school facilities for after-school care, private community gathering facilities, public recreation facilities and other dual-and multi-use purposes.

Discussion: Following are the points brought up.

Chapter 4 Education

Education is Important To Clarkdale:

-Paragraph One: Staff is to create a new first sentence and rewrite part of the paragraph to capture the Town of Clarkdale's consistent support regarding education.

-Paragraph Two: Staff is to add Mingus Union High School, Technical Schools and Post-Secondary to this paragraph.

Our Education Community

Elementary Education

-Staff to change the wording in the first sentence.

Private or Charter Schools

-Staff is to remove the number "eight" of the first sentence, as the number may change in the future. Also take out the last sentence of the paragraph.

Staff to insert a section for High Schools.

Higher Education

-Staff will change the first part of this paragraph regarding the phrase "college town" relating to Clarkdale.

Lifelong Education

-Staff to make grammatical corrections.

EDUCATION CHAPTER POLICIES

-Staff to rewrite the education goal per Committee Members suggestions.

A map was provided to the Committee Members in their meeting packets outlining the Town of Clarkdale School Districts

-Discussions have occurred sporadically among residents to redraw the district lines. Such an action would involve all elements of the community, including Town government, but could result in a more unified long term approach to education in Clarkdale.

This agenda item was discussion only, there were NO actions taken. Staff was given direction to incorporate the suggestions and corrections given by Committee Members for this chapter and provide a total document at the April meeting.

AGENDA ITEM: RECAP-Meeting Accomplishments:

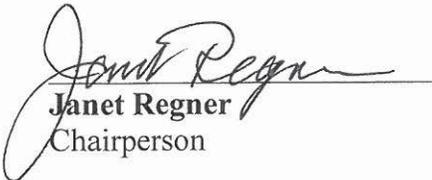
-Reviewed the Education Chapter and made recommendations to Staff.

AGENDA ITEM: FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

-Discussion regarding the total document April 18, 2011.

AGENDA ITEM: ADJOURNMENT: Committee Member Wicks motioned to adjourn the meeting. Committee Member O'Neill seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

APPROVED BY:


Janet Regner
Chairperson

SUBMITTED BY:


Vicki McReynolds
Administrative Assistant